



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.08

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 10/10/2003

GAIN Report Number: BM3026

Burma

Grain and Feed

Beans and Pulses Monthly Trade Report - August 2003

Approved by:

S. Rodrick McSherry, Agricultural Counselor
U.S. Embassy, Bangkok

Prepared by:

Daphne Khin Swe Swe Aye, Agricultural Specialist

Report Highlights:

Burma's beans and pulses exports continued their recovery from the lackluster first five months of the year. With the impact of the U.S. sanctions still being absorbed by the Burmese market, many exporters remain cautious. India took only 62 percent of exports, down from their usual 80-90 percent.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[BM]

TRADE

During August Burma exported 87,198 metric tons (mt) of beans and pulses. 5,739 mt of beans and pulses went through Kawthoung to Thailand and through Muse to China via border trade. In August, Black Matpe comprised 50 percent, Toor Whole (Pigeon pea) 23 percent and Chickpea 11 percent of the total beans and pulses export. The major destination was India who took 62 percent of the total exports. There was an increase of 8 percent in August exports compared to the same month of the previous year.

Bangladesh - a total of 13,559 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 12,901 mt of Black Matpe
- 346 mt of Mung beans
- 200 mt of Chickpeas
- 112 mt of various beans

Belgium - a total of 66 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 66 mt of Small white beans

China - a total of 5,576 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 3,126 mt of Mung beans
- 2,450 mt of Soya beans

Dubai, UAE - a total of 46 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 46 mt of Mung bean

India - a total of 54,496 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 115 mt of Black eye beans
- 23,411 mt of Black Matpe
- 6,459 mt of Chickpeas
- 4,636 mt of Mung beans
- 19,787 mt of Toor Whole (Pigeon pea)
- 88 mt of various beans

Italy - a total of 242 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 242 mt of small white beans

Japan - a total of 1,013 metric tons of beans and pulses exported:

- 352 mt of Black Matpe
- 661 mt of Butter beans (Lima beans)

Malaysia - a total of 44 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 44 mt of Black Matpe

Pakistan - a total of 10,728 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 390 mt of Black eye beans
- 7,395 mt of Black Matpe
- 2,716 mt of Chickpeas
- 227 mt of Red kidney beans

Philippines - a total of 134 metric tons of beans and pulses:

- 44 mt of Bamboo beans
- 46 mt of Black eye beans
- 44 mt of Cow peas

Singapore - a total of 212 metric tons of beans and pulses:

75 mt of Black Matpe
37 mt of Red Kidney beans

Sri Lanka - a total of 478 metric tons of beans and pulses:

478 mt of Black Matpe

Turkey - a total of 66 metric tons of beans and pulses:

66 mt of Black eye beans

Thailand - a total of 220 metric tons of beans and pulses:

220 mt of Black eye beans
51 mt of Cow pea
112 mt of Matpe

Uruguay - a total of 23 metric tons of beans and pulses:

23 mt of Butter beans (Lima beans)

Yemen - a total of 132 metric tons of beans and pulses:

132 mt of Brown beans

Beans and Pulses Exports(mt)	2002	2003
January	56,238	43,885
February	71,161	65,471
March	89,864	70,011
April	110,323	88,772
May	127,052	51,591
June	87,163	100,893
July	102,306	107,520
August	80,651	87,198
September	94,296	
October	81,810	
November	49,477	
December	27,193	
TOTAL	977,534	615,341
Others*	----	----
GRAND TOTAL	977,534	615,341

*=export shipments not covered elsewhere

Prices

Export prices set for beans and prices by Price Appraisal Committee that met on August, 2003 are: FAQ = Fair Average Quality SQ = Standard Quality

Matpe (FAQ) US\$165

Matpe (SQ) US\$205

Mung beans (FAQ) US\$270

Butter beans (Lima beans) (FAQ) US\$240

Toor whole (Pigeon Pea) (FAQ) US\$240

Domestic market situation.

Beans and Pulse prices remain slightly depressed due to a weakening export demand and market uncertainties due to the U.S. sanctions. While there was a decrease of 19 percent in exports compared to the previous month when Burma exported 107,520 metric tons of beans and pulses, exports have continued to rebound from their very low position during the first five months of the year. Bangladesh and Pakistan increased their purchases, helping to boost exports 8 percent above last year's August exports. India, the major buyer for Burma's beans and pulses, took only 62 percent of total exports this month; before it would take 80 to 90 percent of the total beans and pulses export.

Most of the major exporters have adopted a wait and see approach before making major purchases. Exports of beans and pulses should gradually pick up once the exporters overcome their difficulties in arranging financial transactions, i.e. switching from US dollar based contracts to euros, yen, or Singapore dollars. Due to sanctions imposed by the US at the end of July, sales contracted in US dollars have been renegotiated to be based on either euros, yen, or the Singapore dollar. The financing difficulties have been a block to new business for a number of exporters who traditionally ship out of Rangoon. Some of these exporters said that alternatively it was not economically feasible to carry out beans and pulse exports to India through border trade (denominated in local currencies) due to the prohibitively high cost of transportation relative to the value of the goods.

End of Report